

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A method of annotating a document of a document management system, the method comprising:
 - electronically scanning the document;
 - detecting the annotation added to the scanned document;
 - decoding the detected annotation;
 - examining content of the decoded annotation;
 - determining an action to be undertaken with reference to the document, based on the content of the annotation; and
 - performing the action required by the content of the annotation.
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is detected by an active annotation mechanism configured to be aware of a nature of the annotation content and applications whose behavior is coordinated to perform the action required by the annotation, and wherein operation of the active annotation mechanism permits performance of the action required by the content of the annotation without user intervention.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked when the document is stored.
4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked at predetermined time intervals.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation carries at least one of an activity to be carried out and a parameter that configures that activity.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation

is stored with the document.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is stored separate from the document.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the active annotation mechanism operates over at least plain text, files, program source code and presentations.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is placed on the document at least as one of an in-line annotation and an out-of-band annotation.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) An active annotation mechanism for use in association with a document of a document management system, where the document has had an annotation added, comprising:

a scanning mechanism to electronically scan the content of the document;

a detector to detect the annotation added to the scanned document;

a decoder to decode the detected annotation;

a detector to determine the content of the annotation, and an action to be undertaken with reference to the document, based on the content of the annotation; and

a performance mechanism to perform the action required by the content of the annotation.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10 wherein the annotation is placed on the document at least as one of an in-line annotation and an out-of-band annotation.

21. (Previously presented) The mechanism of claim 19 wherein the performance mechanism performs the action required by the content of the annotation without user intervention.

22. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the document management system is configured to dynamically change a system configuration of the document.

23. (New) The method according to claim 22, further including prior to electronically scanning the document,

generating executable code to detect the annotation which requires an action to be undertaken;

assigning the executable code configured to an active property for dynamically changing the system configuration of the document to include the desired configuration which achieves the desired operation; and

attaching the active property to the document, the property identifying the desired operation to be undertaken in connection with the document as required by the annotation.

24. The method according to claim 23, assigning a triggering event to the active property such that the property invokes the executable code in response to the triggering event; and

upon an occurrence of the triggering event, invoking the executable code of the actual property and dynamically changing the system configuration of the document to include the desired configuration, as required by the annotation.

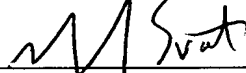
CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is respectfully submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 1-9 and 19-23) are now in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is therefore earnestly solicited.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call Mark S. Svat, at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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